

REMARKS

1. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102

In the Office Action, the Examiner has rejected Claims 4, 14 and 18 as being anticipated by Glenn, et al. (U.S. 6,342,406). The Examiner has also rejected Claims 1,3,14-15 and 17 as being anticipated by Kelly, et al. (U.S. 6,396,116). The Examiner has further indicated the allowability of Claims 2 and 16 if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base and intervening claims.

Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of previous Claim 2, which has been canceled. Claims 14 and 18 have been amended to include the limitations of previous Claim 16, which has been canceled. New Claims 19-33 have been added that depend from one of Amended Claims 1, 14 or 18 and therefore include the limitations of previous Claim 2 or Claim 16.

Therefore, Applicant believes that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102 is overcome and that Claims 1,3, 14-15 and 18-33 should be allowed.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that Applicant's claimed invention is deserving of patent protection because it describes a

useful and functioning structure, which is patentably distinguishable over the prior art.

In conclusion, Applicant respectfully submits that this Amendment, in view of the Remarks offered in conjunction therewith, are fully responsive to all aspects of the objections and rejections tendered by the Examiner in the Office Action. Applicant respectfully submits that he has persuasively demonstrated that the above-identified Patent Application, including Claims 1, 3, 14-15 and 18-33 is in condition for allowance. Such action is earnestly solicited.

It is not believed that this Amendment letter requires any fees as the total number of Claims stands at 20 and the number of independent Claims stands at 3, but if there are any fees incurred by this Amendment Letter, please deduct them from our Deposit Account NO. 23-0830.

Respectfully submitted,


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